

January 16, 2015

Wayne Stuberg, PT (Chair)
Members, 407 Technical Review Committee
c/o Ronald Briel
Program Manager, Credentialing Review Program
Department of Health and Human Services
Licensure Unit, RPQI
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Dear Dr. Stuberg and Members of the Committee:

I have been a practicing Dentist for 28 years. I am currently practicing in North Platte, NE where I have been for the last 18 years. I am on the board of the Nebraska Academy of Dentistry, a member of the Academy of General Dentistry, American Dental Association and the Nebraska Dental Association.

I am writing in support of the NDA/NDAA's 407. After graduation from dental school I practiced in Colorado Springs, CO for ten years. They allow expanded function dental assistants and their statute simply states that an assistant can do anything that is reversible. There has, to my knowledge, never been an incident where a dental assistant caused irreparable harm or any lawsuits associated with dental assistant negligence.

Having an expanded function dental assistant allows a Dentist to be much more productive and efficient. We can see more patients and render more care. It also gives the dental assistant a more satisfying and fulfilling work experience. They are more deeply involved in patient care.

I see great benefits for the patient, community and the entire dental team with very little downside with the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

David L Swanson DDS